



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**SEPTEMBER 2, 2005**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FIVE FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY SENTENCED IN 200-KILO MARIJUANA CONSPIRACY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that one woman and four men from across the country were sentenced in federal court for their role in a 200-kilogram marijuana conspiracy.

**Mayra E. Carrillo**, 32, and **Noe Edwardo Cardenas Gonzalez**, 33, both Mexican nationals living in Kansas City, Mo., **Rafael M. Ferman**, 39, a Mexican national living in Kansas City, Kan., **Robert E. Pennington**, 35, of Glendale, Ariz., and **Giovanny Monarrez**, 20, of Pheoniz, Ariz., were sentenced by Chief U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple on Sept. 1, 2005, for their roles in a conspiracy to distribute marijuana.

**Carrillo** was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison without parole and ordered to forfeit to the government \$24,598 constituting proceeds derived as a result of the conspiracy. **Ferman** was sentenced to five years in federal prison without parole, **Gonzalez** was sentenced to two years in federal prison without parole and **Pennington** and **Monarrez** were each sentenced to five years of federal probation.

On April 12, 2005, **Carillo** pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 100 kilograms of marijuana between July 1, 2003, and Sept. 20, 2004. Specifically, **Carillo** admitted to distributing 200 kilograms of marijuana during the conspiracy and to illegally possessing a firearm during and in relation to the drug conspiracy. She also admitted to aiding and abetting the use of a firearm to shoot Rolando Quinones, 31, of Long Beach, Calif., during a dispute over drugs, Graves said. Quinones was shot three times but survived. In a separate but related case, Quinones was convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm and sentenced to two years and eight months in federal prison without parole on April 8, 2005.

On Feb. 18, 2005, **Ferman** also pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to

distribute 100 kilograms or more of marijuana between July 1, 2003, and Sept. 20, 2004.

**Gonzalez, Pennington** and **Monarrez** each pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 kilograms or more of marijuana between Sept. 1, 2004, and Sept. 20, 2004. **Gonzalez** pleaded guilty on Dec. 12, 2005, **Pennington** pleaded guilty on Dec. 13, 2005, and **Monarrez** pleaded guilty on Dec. 15, 2005.

A sixth co-defendant, **Humberto Rafael Cardenas Gonzales**, 24, a Mexican national formerly residing in Lynwood, Calif., has been sentenced for his role in the marijuana conspiracy and was deported from the United States.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)